

Department of Energy

Idaho Operations Office 850 Energy Drive Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-1563

December 1, 2000

Mr. Wayne Pierre, Team Leader Environmental Cleanup Office U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region X 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, Washington 98101

Mr. Dean Nygard, Site Remediation Manager Idaho Department of Environmental Quality 1410 N. Hilton Boise, Idaho 83706

SUBJECT: Path Forward for Disposing of Non-PCB Mixed Low-Level Waste (EM-ER-226)

Dear Mr. Pierre and Mr. Nygard:

Because the Waste Experimental Reduction Facility (WERF) incinerator is being shut down, approximately 4,800 cubic feet of non-PCB mixed low-level waste from V-tank sampling remains in storage. The Operable Unit (OU) 1-10 Record of Decision (page 12-27) specified that this waste would be incinerated at WERF. Since the WERF incinerator is no longer available, the project team looked at other ways to dispose of the waste. On November 8, 2000, the agency WAG managers agreed, via teleconference, to dispose of this waste at Envirocare.

While this process is different from the planned method referred to in the ROD, it is not significantly different and follows the intent of the ROD in that the waste is permanently disposed of in an environmentally responsible and cost effective manner. Shipments to Envirocare should begin by the end of December 2000. Please contact me at (208) 526-4392 or Mark Shaw at (208) 526-6442 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Kathleen E. Hain, Manager

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Environmental Restoration Program

cc: C. Cody, DEQ, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83706

M. Wilkening, EPA Region X, Idaho Ops Office, 1435 N. Orchard St., Boise, ID 83706